W. H. WALDRON & L. R. KRUMM.

ANTISEPTIC MOUTHPIECE COVER.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 7, 1909.

965,257. Patented July 26, 1910.

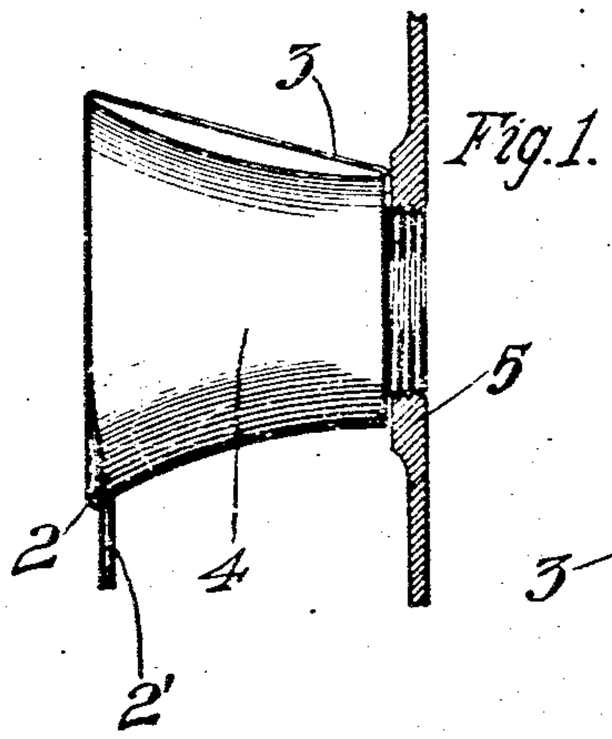

Fig. 1.

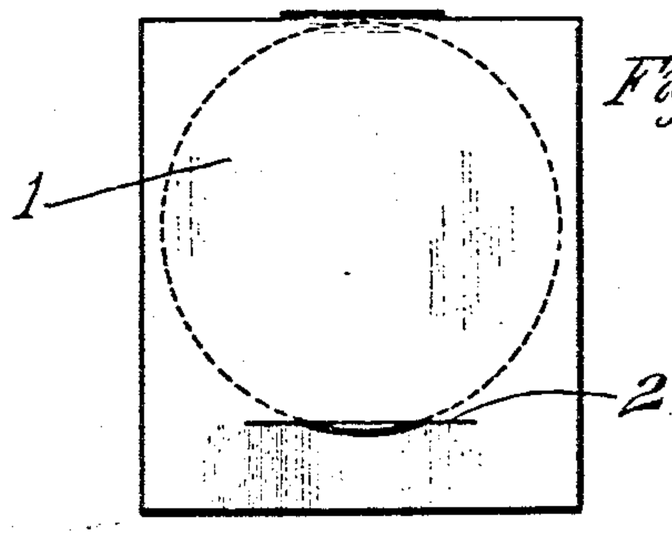

Fig. 2.

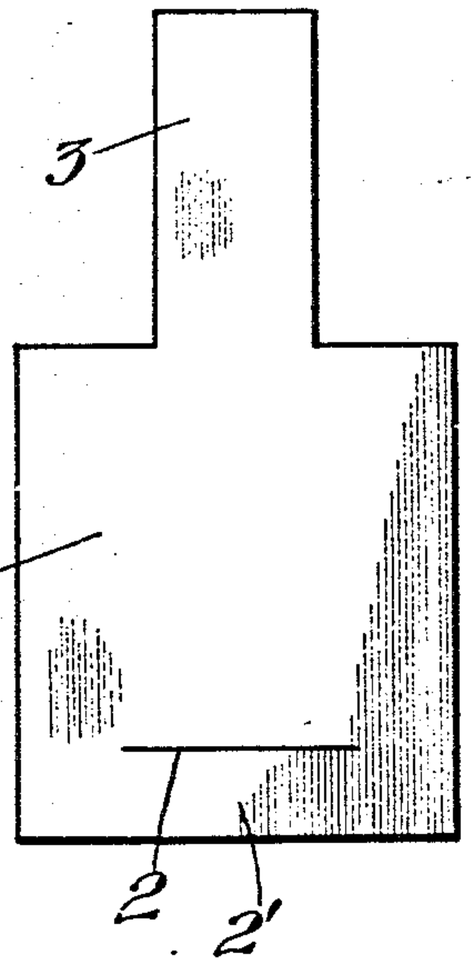

Fig. 3.

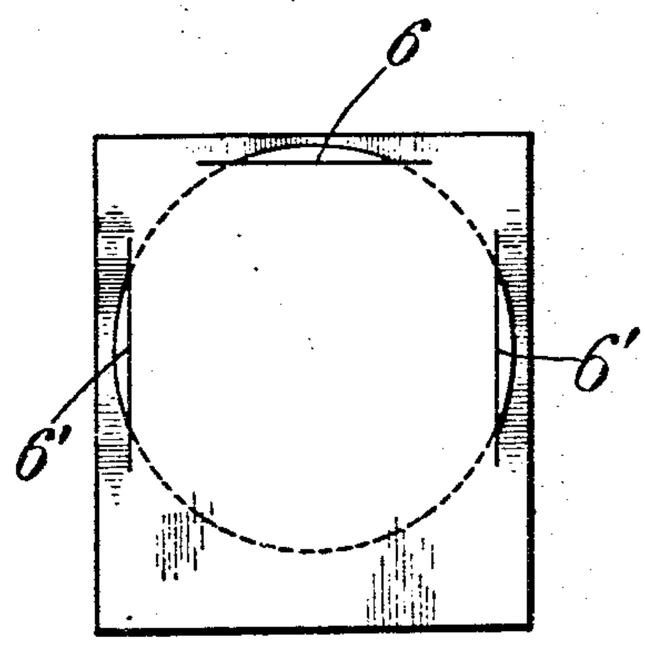

Fig. 6.

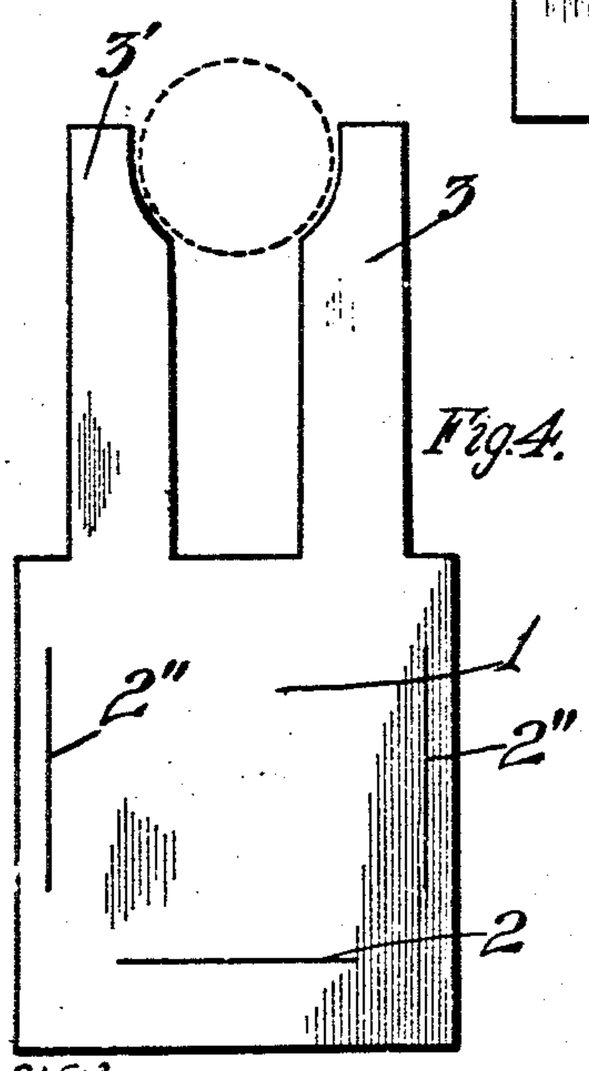

Fig. 4.

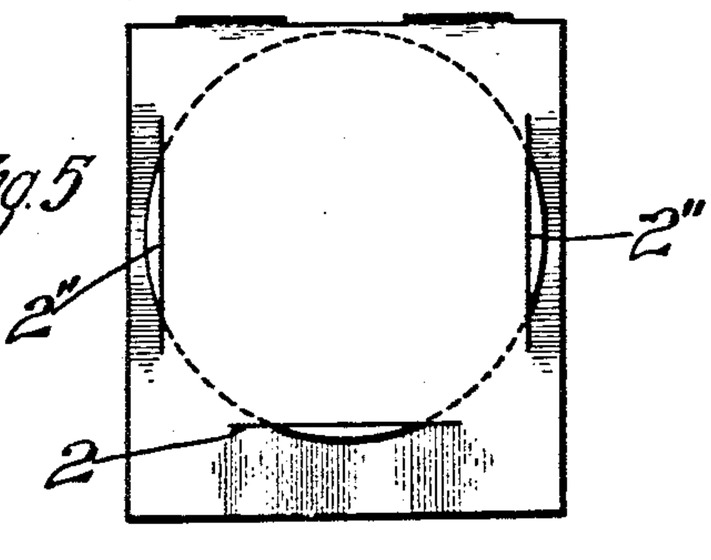

Fig. 5

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ANTISEPTIC MOUTHPIECE-COVER.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, WILLIAM H. WALDRON and LOUIS R. KRUMM, citizens of the United States of America, and residing, respectively, at San Francisco, county of San Francisco, and State of California, and at Columbus, county of Franklin, and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Antiseptic Mouthpiece-Covers, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention pertains to antiseptic covers for telephone transmitter mouthpieces.

Our object is to provide a cover for insuring the cleanliness of telephone mouthpieces which shall be of such cheap construction as to make its cost a matter of practically no moment, and which at the same time shall be so easily applied and detached that it may be readily replaced when soiled or foul.

A further object is to provide a cover of such nature as to be well adapted for advertising display.

In carrying out our invention we provide a sheet of thin material, preferably of paper, although it may be made of thin metal, celluloid or other similar materials. We provide an ear or a plurality of ears extending from the main surface of the thin sheet, which ear or ears are adapted to be clamped between the mouthpiece and the front of the transmitter case by unscrewing the mouthpiece a portion of a turn, inserting the end of the ear or ears between the shoulder of the mouthpiece and the front of the casing, and clamping the ears firmly in place by again screwing the mouthpiece against its seat. As an additional means for securing the flexible sheet or cover across the face of the mouthpiece, we provide slits in the paper or other material, which may be snapped over the front edge of the mouthpiece in a manner that will be more fully hereinafter explained.

By the means above broadly outlined, the sheet of paper or other thin flexible material is secured directly across the face of the mouthpiece so as to completely close the entrance thereof. It has been found that a sheet of thin flexible material thus placed between the speaker and the working diaphragm of the transmitter, affects in no material or appreciable degree the sound transmitting qualities of the transmitter, and at the same time it prevents the entrance of the moisture of the breath of the user with its attendant germs and foul odors.

The front face of the cover may be provided with any suitable advertising legend or insignia printed thereon, if the device be made of paper or celluloid, or embossed or etched thereon if it be made of metal. If of paper or fibrous material, we may impregnate the sheet with any well-known antiseptic fluid or deodorizer, so that the device may act not only as a means for preventing the entrance of germs but may act in addition thereto as a germicide.

In the drawings which accompany and form a part of this specification, Figure 1 shows a mouthpiece equipped with an attachment of the specific type shown in Fig. 3; Fig. 2 shows face view of the same; Fig. 3 shows an attachment provided with one ear and one slit such as is shown also in Figs. 1 and 2; Fig. 4 shows an attachment having two ears and three slits; Fig. 5 shows face view of the same when in place upon a mouthpiece; Fig. 6 shows an attachment having three slits and without any ears.

Fig. 3 shows a sheet 1 of paper or other flexible sheet material of such shape as to conform to the requirements of its attachment to the telephone mouthpiece in the manner hereinafter pointed out. The method of attachment is shown in Fig. 1. and it will be seen that the end of the ear 3 is clamped between the transmitter front 5 and the mouthpiece 4 by inserting the end of the ear in the space between the mouthpiece shoulder and the transmitter front, and then screwing the mouthpiece home. The length of the ear 3 is such that it will reach approximately to the front edge of the mouthpiece so as to allow the larger rectangular portion of the sheet 1 to be bent down in front of the mouthpiece opening. The lower edge of the mouthpiece cover is fastened by means of the slit 2. which is snapped over the lower front edge of the mouthpiece. forcing the flexible strip 2′ which lies below the slit 2, back of the lower flaring edge of the mouthpiece, as shown clearly in Fig. 1.

The modified form shown in Fig. 4 has two ears 3 3′ and may also be provided with two additional slots 2″ 2″. In this form the ears 3 3′ extend on each side of the shank of the mouthpiece, as indicated by the dotted circle in Fig. 4, and are clamped

between the mouthpiece shoulder and the front in the same manner as previously described. The front plate of the cover is then bent down as before, and the slot 2 made to engage the lower flaring edge of the mouthpiece. As additional security the vertical slots 2'' 2'' are provided for engaging the flaring edge of the mouthpiece on each side.

In Fig. 6 is shown an attachment which has no ears, being self-supporting by its slots upon the mouthpiece. When engaged by the three slots it is held rigidly upon the mouthpiece and forms an efficient protector, readily attached and readily replaced. As it is flat before attachment, and as it is not provided with gum or other objectionable features, it may be carried in the pocket of the telephone user and attached to any telephone transmitter he may desire to use. The form of Fig. 6, preferably, is made of a reasonably stiff sheet of paper, such, for instance, as 14-pound folio bond, although it may be of any quality of paper desired, the cheaper and lighter grades merely requiring more delicacy in handling.

The slits, if desired, may be slots having an appreciable opening between their edges, a portion of the paper being punched out if such form is preferred.

An important feature of our attachment is the fact that it may carry advertising matter conveniently and conspicuously. This may be printed upon it either before or after the paper is cut to form our antiseptic attachment, since any form shown may be fed conveniently to printing presses. By printing advertising matter upon both sides the advertising matter always will be exhibited when the device is attached to the transmitter, which is a commercial consideration of importance.

When it is desired that the mouthpiece cover shall be antiseptic we saturate the paper, preferably after it is cut but before it is printed, in any of the well-known antiseptic fluids, after which it is dried and printed or otherwise marked, as desired.

The shape of the perimeter of our attachment may be of any desired form. Instead of making it of substantially rectangular shape, the portion of it which covers the face of the mouthpiece may be cut out in any irregular or fanciful shape, such, for instance, as the well-known "bell" or "shield," which form the insignia of different telephone-using companies. The number and location of the slots may also be made of any arrangement desired; for instance, two slots such as 6' 6' of Fig. 6, will hold the attachment securely, whether the slots are vertically disposed at the sides or are horizontally disposed at the top and bottom. We do not wish to limit ourselves, therefore, to any specific arrangement of the slots or ears or detail of the shape of perimeter of the device.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new and desire to secure by United States Letters Patent, is—

1. In an antiseptic mouthpiece attachment, a sheet of thin material extending across the face of the transmitter mouthpiece and having one of its edges adapted to be clamped between the mouthpiece and the transmitter front.

2. In an antiseptic mouthpiece attachment, a sheet of thin material extending across the face of the transmitter mouthpiece and having an ear integral therewith, adapted to be clamped between the mouthpiece and the transmitter front.

3. In an antiseptic mouthpiece attachment, a sheet of thin material adapted to be clamped at one of its edges between the mouthpiece and the transmitter face plate, said sheet extending across the face of the transmitter mouthpiece and having a slit near its opposite edge for engaging the front edge of the mouthpiece.

4. In an antiseptic mouthpiece attachment, a sheet of material; an ear integral with one of the edges of said sheet, said ear being adapted to be clamped between the mouthpiece and the transmitter face plate, said plate having near its edge, opposite said ear, a slit adapted to engage the edge of the mouthpiece when said ear is clamped, as described.

5. In an antiseptic transmitter attachment, a sheet of resilient material having a plurality of ears and a plurality of slits, said ears adapted to be clamped between the mouthpiece and the face plate of a telephone transmitter, and the slits adapted to engage the edge of the mouthpiece.

6. An antiseptic mouthpiece attachment having two parallel slits spaced apart a distance less than the diameter of the flaring edge of the mouthpiece, the edges of said slits being adapted to engage the opposite sides of the mouthpiece and to hold said attachment in place upon the mouthpiece.

7. In an antiseptic mouthpiece attachment, a sheet of material having at one side an ear adapted to be clamped between the mouthpiece and the transmitter face plate, and having near its edge opposite the ear, a slit adapted to engage the edge of the mouthpiece when the ear is clamped as described.

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